



U.S. Department of Justice

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TWO ROCKFORD MEN CHARGED WITH THE ARMED BANK ROBBERIES OF ALPINE AND ASSOCIATED BANKS IN ROCKFORD

ROCKFORD – PATRICK J. FITZGERALD, United States Attorney for the Northern District of Illinois; ROBERT D. GRANT, Special Agent-In-Charge of the Chicago Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation; and CHET EPPERSON, Chief of the Rockford Police Department, today made the following announcement:

Yesterday, a federal grand jury returned a superseding indictment charging two men, **CORVET T. WILLIAMS**, 23 (DOB: 7/22/83), of Rockford, and **BRIAN D. AUSTIN**, 24 (DOB: 7/25/82), also of Rockford, with the August 23, 2006 armed bank robbery of the Alpine Bank inside the Logli's supermarket, located at 2642 Charles Street, as well as the September 5, 2006 armed bank robbery of the Associated Bank located at 3402 N. Main Street in Rockford. Both men were also charged with using firearms during and in relation to both bank robberies. Williams was previously charged by indictment with the Associated Bank robbery, and has been in federal custody since September 5, 2006. Austin was previously charged by criminal complaint with the Associated Bank robbery. He was arrested on the charges in the superseding indictment by members of the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Rockford Police Department today.

Austin appeared before United States Magistrate Judge P. Michael Mahoney today at 11:30 a.m. for an arraignment and initial appearance. His next court date is Monday, December 18, 2006 at 11:30 a.m. for a detention hearing. Williams' next court appearance is December 20, 2006 at 9:30 a.m.

The charges of armed bank robbery contained in the superseding indictment each carry a maximum possible penalty of 25 years in prison, a fine of \$250,000, five years of supervised release, and full restitution. The charges of using a firearm during and in relation to the bank robberies carry a minimum penalty of five years of imprisonment for a first conviction, and twenty-five years of imprisonment for a second conviction, both of which must be ordered to run consecutively to each other and to any other sentence of imprisonment that is imposed. If convicted, the actual sentence would be determined by the United States District Court, guided by the United States Sentencing Guidelines.

The case was investigated by the Rockford Office of the FBI and the Rockford Police Department. The case is being prosecuted in federal court by Assistant United States Attorney Michael F. Iasparro.

Members of the public are reminded that an indictment is only a charge and is not evidence of guilt. Each defendant is entitled to a fair trial at which time the government has the burden of proving the guilt of each defendant beyond a reasonable doubt.

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